

ADMIRALTY OFFICE, May 22.

Captain Winthrop, of his Majesty's ship Circe, arrived here this day with a dispatch from Captain Home Riggs Popham, of his Majesty's ship Expedition, to Evan Nepean, Esq. Secretary of the Admiralty, of which the following is a copy.

His Majesty's ship Expedition, Offend Roads, May 20, 1798.

SIR, I beg you will do me the honour to inform my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that, in pursuance of their orders of the 8th inst. I proceeded to sea the 14th, with the ships and vessels named on the margin, * having on board the troops under the command of Major General Coote, for the purpose of blowing up the basins and sluices of the Bruges canal, and destroying the internal navigation between Holland, Flanders, and France. On the 18th, P. M. I spoke the Fairy, when Captain Horton told me he had taken a cutter from Flushing to Ostend, and he understood from the people on board, that the transport ships sitting at Flushing were to go round immediately by the canals to Dunkirk and Ostend; and although it was impossible that any information could give additional spirit to the troops forming this enterprise, or increase the energy and exertion of the officers and seamen under my command, yet it convinced Major General Coote and myself that it was of the greatest importance not to lose any time, but to attempt, even under an increased degree of risk, an object of such magnitude as the one in question; and as the weather appeared more favourable than it had been, I made the signal for Captain Bazely, in the Harpy, to go ahead, with the vessels appointed to lie as beacons N. W. of the town of Ostend, and for Captain Bradley, in the Ariadne, to keep between the Expedition and Harpy, that we might approach as near the coast as possible, without the chance of being discovered from the shore.

At one A. M. we anchored; soon afterwards the wind shifted to west, and threatened so much to blow, that the General and myself were deliberating whether it would not be better to go to sea and wait a more favourable opportunity, when a boat from the Vigilant brought a vessel alongside, which the cut out from under the light-house battery, and information obtained from the persons who were on board her, under separate examinations, so convinced us of the small force at Ostend, Newport and Bruges, that Major-General Coote begged he might be landed to accomplish the great objects of destroying the canals, even if the surf should prevent his retreat being so successful as he could wish. I of course acceded to his spirited propositions, and ordered the troops to be landed as fast as possible, without waiting for the regular order of the debarkation. Many of the troops were on shore before we were discovered, and it was not till a quarter past four that the batteries opened on the ships, which was instantly returned in a most spirited manner by Captain Mortlock of the Wolverine, Lieutenant Edmonds of the Asp, and Lieutenant Norman of the Bitter. The Hecla and Tartarus bombs soon opened their mortars, and threw their shells with great quickness and precision. The town was on fire several times, and much damage was done to the ships in the basin. By five o'clock all the troops ordered to land, except those from the Minerva, were on shore with their artillery, miners, woodmen, engineers, tools, and gun-powder; and before six o'clock I heard from General Coote that he had no doubt of blowing up the works. I now became very anxious for the situation of the Major-General from the state of the weather, and I ordered all the gun-boats that had anchored to the eastward of the town to get as near the shore as possible, to cover and assist the troops in their embarkation. The batteries at the town continued their fire on the Wolverine, Asp, and Bitter; and as the Wolverine had received much damage, and the Asp had been laying near four hours within 300 yards of the battery, I had made their signal to move, and soon after directed the Dart, Harpy, and Kite to take their stations, that the enemy might be prevented from turning their guns against our troops; but it being low water, they could not get so near as their commanders wished. At half past nine the Minerva came in, and as I thought an additional number of troops would only add to the anxiety of the General, from the little probability of being able to embark them, I sent Captain Mackellar on shore to report his arrival with four light companies of the Guards. In his absence, Colonel Ward filled two flat boats with his officers and men, and was proceeding with every zeal to join the battalion of Guards, without considering the danger he was exposed to in crossing the surf, when Captain Bradley fortunately saw him, and advised him to return immediately to his ship. At twenty minutes past ten I had the pleasure of seeing the explosion take place; and soon after the troops assembled on the sand hills near the shore; but the sea ran so high that it was impossible to embark a single man, therefore I could only make every arrangement against the wind moderated; and this morning at day-light I went in shore, in the Kite, for the purpose of giving every assistance, but I had the mortification to see our army surrounded by the enemy's troops; and as I had no doubt the General had capitulated, I ordered all the ships to anchor farther out, and I sent in a flag of truce, by Colonel Boone of the Guards, and Captain Brown of the Kite, with a letter to the Commandant, a copy of which I inclose for their Lordships information. At ten this morning the General's Aid-de-Camp, Captain Williamson, came on board, and though it was very painful to hear General Coote was wounded, after all his exertions, yet it was very satisfactory to learn, that, under many disadvantages, and after performing a service of such consequence to our country, the loss, killed and wounded, was only between fifty and sixty officers and privates; and that the General capitulated in consequence of being surrounded by several thousands of the national troops.

I inclose, for their Lordships information, a copy of such minutes as were left me by Captain Wilson, from

* To anchor to the eastward, Hecla bomb, J. Oughton; Harpy, H. Bazely; Ariadne, J. Bradley; Expedition, H. Popham; Minerva, J. Mackellar; Savage, N. Thompson; Blazer D. Burgess; Lion, S. Brevell; Circe, R. Withrop; Vestal, C. White; Hebe, W. Brichall; David, C. Athroppe; Terrier, T. Lowen; Vefuse, W. Elliott; Furnace, M. W. Suckling.

To keep to the westward, for the purpose of making a feint to land there, Champion, H. Raper; Dart, R. Raggett; Wolverine, L. M. Mortlock; Craft, B. M. Prad; Boxer, J. Gilbert; Acute, Saver.

which their Lordships will see the sluice gates and works are completely destroyed, and several vessels, intended for transports, burnt.

I this morning learnt that the canal was quite dry, and that the works destroyed yesterday had taken the States of Bruges five years to finish.

I hope their Lordships will be satisfied that the enemy was surprised, and every thing they wished was accomplished, although the loss of the troops far exceeded any calculation, except under the particular circumstances of the wind coming to the northward, and blowing very hard. If the weather had continued fair, the troops would have been embarked by twelve, at which time the return of killed and wounded did not exceed four rank and file.

I cannot help again noticing the particular good conduct of Captain Mortlock, Lieutenant Edmond and Lieutenant Norman, and beg to recommend them to their Lordships protection.

General Coote sent to inform me that he was highly pleased with the uncommon exertions of Captains Winthrop and Bradby, and Lieutenant Bradby, who had acted on shore as his Aid-de-Camp. He also noticed the assistance he had derived from Captain Mackellar, after his landing.

I take the liberty of sending this dispatch by Captain Winthrop, of the Circe, who commanded the seamen landed from the different ships; and as he had the particular charge of getting the powder and mines up for the destruction of the works, in which he so ably succeeded, he will be enabled to inform their Lordships of every circumstance. Captain Mackellar, with the officers and men on shore, were included in the capitulation; but I have not yet been able to collect an exact return of the number of seamen taken.

I transmit you a list of killed and wounded on board his Majesty's ships; and I have the honour to be, &c.

HOME POPHAM.

His Majesty's ship Expedition, Offend Roads, May 20, 1798.

SIR, I have just heard, with concern, that the British troops and seamen, under the command of Major-General Coote, and Captain Mackellar of the Royal navy, have capitulated to the troops of the Republic; and, I trust, they will be treated with that attention which is due to the officers and men, executing the orders of their Sovereign.

It has been the inviolable rule of the British Government to make the situation of prisoners as comfortable as possible; and I am sure, Sir, in this instance you will do the same to the troops, &c. who have fallen into your hands.

It will not be against any rule to exchange the prisoners immediately; but, on the contrary, add to your name, by marking it with humanity and liberality; and I give you my word, the same number of troops, or other prisoners, shall be instantly sent from England to France, with such officers as you shall name, or as shall be named by the National Convention, provided no public reason attaches against the release of any particular person.

I have sent the officers what things they left on board the ship, and I am confident you will order them to be delivered as soon as possible.

I beg you will allow the officers and men to write letters to England by this flag, as a satisfaction to their families, it being impossible for me to know who have fallen or received wounds, which I hope will be very inconsiderable from the accounts I have received from the shore.

I beg your answer to this letter without loss of time; and confiding in your liberality towards the troops under capitulation to you—I have the honour to be &c.

HOME POPHAM.

To the Officer commanding the Troops of the National Convention at Ostend.

Extract from the Minutes left on board the Expedition by Captain Williamson, Aid-de-camp to General Coote, dated ten A. M. May 20. Offend Roads.

Sluice-gates destroyed in the most complete manner. Boats burnt, and every thing done, and the troops ready to embark by twelve o'clock. When we found it impossible to embark, took the strongest position on the sand-hills; and about four in the morning were attacked by a column of 600 men to our left, an immense column in front, with cannon, and a very large column on the right.

The General and troops would have all been off, with the loss of not more than three or four men, if the wind had not come to the northward soon after we landed, and made so high a sea. We have not been able to ascertain the exact number of men killed and wounded, but it is supposed they amount to about fifty or sixty.

The Officers killed and wounded are, Major-General Coote, wounded; Colonel Hely, 11th regiment, killed; Colonel Campbell, wounded; Captain Walker, Royal Artillery, wounded.

A list of killed and wounded in his Majesty's ships and vessels under the command of Home Popham, Esq. 19th May, 1798—Offend Roads.

Seamen, &c. of Wolverine—1 killed, 2 wounded. 23d regiment, on board the Wolverine, 1 killed, 5 wounded. Asp—1 seaman killed, Lieut. Edmonds wounded.

HOME POPHAM.

PARLIAMENT STREET, May 22, 1798.

A dispatch, of which the following is a copy, has been this day received by the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Lieutenant Colonel Warde, of the 1st regiment of Guards, dated on board the Expedition frigate, eight o'clock, P. M. May 20, 1798.

SIR,

In consequence of the Minerva frigate (on board which were the four light infantry companies of the 1st regiment of Foot Guards) having unfortunately lost her situation in the squadron under the command of Captain Popham, of the royal navy, during the night of the 18th instant, the command of the remainder of the troops, from that accident, has devolved upon me; and I have the honour to transmit to you the most correct account that I have been enabled to collect.

Early on the morning of the 19th instant the following troops under the command of Major-General Coote, viz. two companies light infantry, Coldstream Guards; two ditto, ditto, 3d Guards; 11th regiment of foot; and flank companies of the 23d and 49th, with six pieces of ordnance, disembarked, and effected their landing, at three o'clock in the morning, to the eastward of Ostend, and completed the object of the expedition, by burning a number of boats destined for the invasion of England, and by so completely destroying the locks and basins of the Bruges canal, that it was this morning without a drop of water; and as I understand all the transports sitting out at Flushing were

intended to be brought to Ostend and Dunkirk by the inland navigation, to avoid our cruisers, that arrangement will be defeated, and it will be a long time before the works can be repaired, as they were five years finishing, and were esteemed the most complete works of the kind in Europe. The troops had retreated, and were ready to re-embark by twelve o'clock the same morning, with the loss of only one rank and file killed, and one seaman wounded, but found it impossible, from the wind having increased, and the surf running so high, as entirely to prevent their regaining the boats, upon which they took up a position on the sand hills above the beach, where they lay the whole of that day and night under their arms. The enemy taking advantage of the length of time and the night, collected in very great force, and soon after day-break this morning attacked them on every side, when, after a most noble and gallant defence, I am grieved to add, they were under the necessity of capitulating, to a very great superiority of numbers.

I herewith inclose a list of the killed and wounded, and I have every reason to believe it is correct.

Lieutenant Colonel Hely, 11th foot, killed.
Major-General Coote, wounded.
Colonel Campbell, 3d guards, wounded.
Major Donkin, 44th foot, wounded.
Captain Walker, royal artillery, wounded.
And near sixty rank and file killed and wounded.
I have the honour to be, &c.

HENRY WARDE.
Capt. and Lieut.-Col. 18 Guards.

LLOYD'S MARINE LIST, Mar 22.

THE Hare, Buncher, from the Cape of Good Hope to London, has been taken by a French privateer, and retaken by the Weymouth lugger of Jersey, and arrived at Dartmouth.

The Hannah, Bell, from Maryport, in ballast, is taken by a privateer in the North Sea, and carried into Christianland.

The Jemima, —, from London to Lisbon, is captured and carried into Vigo.

The Commerce, Dethon, from Savannah; the Polly, Tuffs, from Charlott; the Rebecca, —, from Jamaica to Glasgow; the Firemen, —, from Jamaica to London; and the Fortuna, —, from Portugal, are taken by the French, and carried into Bordeaux and the neighbouring ports.

The Albion, Towers, from Liverpool to the West Indies, sailed from Martinico, on 13th March, for St Kitt's, was not arrived there on the 25th March, and is supposed to be captured and carried into Caracas.

The Pigou, —, from China to Philadelphia, captured by a French privateer, is recaptured and carried into Antigua.

The Oromodo, Bourne, from Halifax to Antigua, is supposed to be captured in the West Indies.

The Proven Oak, from Hull to Rotterdam, is taken and carried into Flushing.

The Twee Gebroeders, Jan Jacobs, from Newcastle to Embden, is taken and carried into Vlieland.

The Virginia and Philadelphia Packet, Moon, sailed from Jamaica about the middle of January last, for Norfolk in Virginia, and has not since been heard of.

The Ann, Major, from Newcastle to Lisbon, is reported to be captured near Cape Finisterre.

The Oporto, Pennant, from Oporto to London, is taken and carried into Nantes.

The Maria, Mitchell, from London to Demerara, is reported to be captured in the West Indies.

Graveyard, May 21.—Arrived the Camel ship of war from Lisbon.

Portsmouth, May 18. Arrived the Amarantha frigate from Falmouth with a prize.—21. The Agincourt man of war from the Downs with a fleet.

MAILS.
Arrived—Ireland, 7.—Lisbon, 1.—Hamburg, 2.
Due—Ireland, 2.—Hamburg, 2.

WINDS AT DEAL.
May 18. S. W.—19. S. W. by W.—20. N. by W.—21. N. E.

London.

MAY 23.

STATE TRIALS.

SPECIAL COMMISSION AT MAIDSTONE, MAY 21.

HIGH TREASON.

The King against Arthur O'Connor, Esq. James Quigley, John Burns, John Allen, and Jeremiah Leary.

Mr Justice BULLER, Mr Justice HEATH, Mr Justice LAWRENCE, and Mr Sergeant SHEPHERD, took their seats on the Bench by seven o'clock. The Court was immensely crowded, previous to the names of the Jurors being called over.

Mr PLOMER addressed the Court. He observed it was far from his intention to interrupt the proceedings of the day by any unnecessary observations; but he felt it his duty, in order to preserve the purity of the administration of public justice, not to lose a moment in stating the contents of an affidavit which had been just sworn. It respected a charge of the foulest nature;—a charge of one of the most daring attempts to violate the public justice of the country—of one of the grossest contempt of the Court that ever was practised. He was impelled to submit it to their Lordships, in order to prevent that prejudice against the objects of the present prosecutions, which it had been the means of creating. When the facts were first laid before him, they appeared of so extraordinary a nature, that he could scarce allow himself to give credit to them; and it was not until he had fully ascertained the truth of them that he had ventured to make any application to the Court upon the subject.

The charge was nothing less than that of a wicked attempt to tamper with the Jury appointed to try the guilt or innocence of the prisoners at the bar, and was founded on the affidavit of a most respectable person, one concerning whose veracity and honour there was not the slightest doubt. Their Lordships would be astonished to hear, that endeavours had been made by indirect means with Jurors, known to be such, to prejudice their judgments, and induce them to come to Court with minds predetermined to convict the prisoners at the bar, guilty or not. The Court would be still more surprised, when they heard that the person against whom he had to complain bore the sacred character of a Clergyman; yet, he should state, under his own hand-writing, an account of the conversation he had with several of the Jurors; and he had no doubt but the Court, when in possession of the facts, would mark his conduct by the severest reprehension.

Mr PLOMER then read the following letter:—

“DEAR SIR,
“I dined yesterday with three of the jurymen of the Blackburne Hundred, who have been summoned to Maidstone on the trial of O'Connor and Co. and it is not a little singular, that not one yeoman of this district should have been summoned to an assize for this county, nor to any of the quarter sessions (excepting the midsummer), for more than fifty years. These three men are wealthy yeomen, and partisans of the High Court party. Now, this is as it ought to be; and as they are good farmers, and much in my interest, to-be

fore, I exerted all my eloquence to convince them, absolutely necessary it was, at the present moment, the security of the realm, that the friends should lay Co. laid the foundation of the present conspiracy at Manchester, London Corresponding Society, urged them, by all possible means in my power, to them through mercy, a memorial to others, that others have suffered, the deep laid conspiracy which coming to light would have been crushed in its infancy. Those with many other arguments, I pressed upon them that they should go into Court avowedly determined in their verdict, no matter what evidence, innocent man committed to goal, never offers a to a turnkey to let him escape. O'Connor did to my knowledge; and although the Judge is fully by stern, and seldom acquits where hanging is needed, the Blues may gain the ascendancy. In the pressed the matter so much upon their senses, that one of the three is chosen, I think something more done. These three men have gained their good tunes by farming; and I think they are now thoroughly sensible that they will lose every shilling in acquitting these felons. I have seen, Sir, that detailed show, atrocious land of despotism, from Shakespeare's cliff, his steeples, and truly I shuddered not at the precipice but by contemplating the vicinity to me of a million crew of hellions, vomiting their impotent vengeance and already satiating their bloody appetites upon country. Ah, my good Sir, we are safe; it is not a moral impossibility that in Sussex or Kent they could land in force; the batteries, forts, &c. are so numerous that hardly a gun-boat could escape being blown to toms; but Ireland, alas! alas! it is lost, Sir, I fear is gone. Here Government are now spending hundreds of thousands in fortifying what can never be attacked they are fortifying the castle with outworks, ravelled counterescarpments, and immense ditches; and are absolutely burrowing under the rock for barracks; it is indeed a most prodigious undertaking, but absolutely useless. It is a pity, indeed it is, when money is so much wanted, to see it so wantonly wasted, and all done to throw down the cliff upon the beach. Remember me to Mr L. and your family; assure her we expect a Republican visitation. This country is split into party; but never enter into the habitation of a yeoman but I fear the sword of the owner suspended—glorious fight! the militia—O Lord! At Horsham, Shoreham, Alford, Battel, Lewes, Brighton, Ringmer, &c. &c. very seldom meet with a sober man; 'tis nothing but a dreadful fight of drunkenness. Fine soldiers in action their pay, their pay so extravagant; I have now as a fight of the Chalk Hills opposite us as ever was from the sun is setting upon that vile land, and presents an object not a little disagreeable. Your's truly,

A. YOUNG.

This letter, continued Mr Plover, was under the hand-writing of the Reverend Arthur Young, and addressed to Gamaliel Lloyd, Esq. a Gentleman of Bury St Edmund's. Notice had been given in Mr Young of this application, and he had acknowledged the letter to be his writing. He had been called on the state who the three yeomen of Blackburne were, in order that they might be made the subject of direct challenge, but he had refused to name them. Mr Plover said, he was persuaded it could not be the of the Court or the prosecutors, that the prisoners at bar should be brought to trial under the prejudice which had been raised in the minds of those who were to try them—and he therefore trusted the Court would co-operate in endeavouring to prevent the jurors who had been so prejudiced from constituting a part of the jury.—He added, that it was his duty to accompany these observations with an application personally against Mr Young.

Mr Justice BULLER said, it was an offence that ought not to go unpunished; but he feared the power of the Court to punish would cease with the commission.

Mr Young was called, but did not make his appearance.

Mr DALLAS urged the necessity of some measure being adopted to obviate the effect of the prejudice raised against the prisoners.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL said, he did not take any degree of credit to himself for the observations he meant to make; but he was perfectly persuaded he should be believed by all present when he stated, in the name of God and his country, that he had heard, with great affliction, the circumstance just mentioned; and if, upon enquiry, he should have reason to be satisfied the charge was true, he should think he deserved to be immediately dismissed from his office, if he hesitated one moment in using his power to the utmost, in order to bring that man to justice who had dared to prejudice the minds of persons exercising the office of Jurors.

The Attorney General then not only pledged himself to bring Mr Young to justice, if he was guilty; but he desired the names of all the Jurors summoned from the Hundred of Blackburne should be struck out of the panel.

The Clerk of Arraignment proceeded to call the Jurors. The usual number of peremptory challenges were made by the prisoners—peremptory challenges were so made, to the number of 25, by the Crown. There were also several challenges for cause on behalf of the prisoners. Among the latter, Thomas Raikes, Esq. of Bromley, was challenged on the oath of Mr Folkes, who stated, that on a former occasion, when the prisoners were in Court, Mr Raikes enquired of the deponent their names, and upon being informed, he looked sternly and savagely at them, clenched his fist, and exclaimed—Damned rascals! His eligibility was tried by two jurors, who determined he should be rejected.

The Jury was at length formed, and consisted of the following persons:

Charles Halkins, Esq. West Wycombe, foreman
William Small, farmer, Shoreham
William Cronk, farmer, Deal
Richard Pay, farmer, Sevenoaks
James Chappell, distiller, Sevenoaks
Michael Saxby, farmer, Penisholt
Silas Newman, farmer, Wrotham
Isaac Tomlin, Esq. Wrotham
Thomas Henham, farmer, East Peckham
Walter Barton, farmer, East Peckham
John Miller, gentleman, Yalding
John Simmons, farmer, Yalding.

The indictment having been briefly stated, Mr ATTORNEY GENERAL said, The charge made by this indictment was, in the language of the law, first, that of compassing the King's death; secondly, adhering to his enemies, giving them aid and comfort; and thirdly, inviting strangers and foreigners to invade

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this land. With reference to each of these charges, the indictment stated various overt acts, the meaning of which he would explain.

With respect to these facts or overt acts, he would proceed to detail them with as few observations of his own as possible. On the 27th of February last, three of the prisoners at the bar, viz. Quigley, Allen, and Leary, came from Whitstable to the King's Head at Margate—Quigley, in the name and character of Captain Jones; Allen in the character of his servant, though he really was not so; and Leary, the servant of Mr O'Connor, who waited on his master. They had not been at the King's Head a quarter of an hour when Mr O'Connor, who went by the name of Colonel Morris, and Binns, who assumed the name of Mr Williams, arrived. They remained at the King's Head that evening, and part of next morning. The next morning, while they were meditating the removal of their baggage, for a purpose of which there could be no doubt, they were arrested by Revett and Fugion, two police officers. Quigley was sitting at breakfast in a room in which was a great coat, containing in the pocket a paper which would be stated to the Jury. He should have mentioned that on the preceding evening, when Quigley, Allen, and Leary came to the King's Head, they brought a very large quantity of baggage, deal and mahogany boxes and other cases, which, notwithstanding their value, so apprehensive were the prisoners of their danger of owning them, that they denied all knowledge of them or their contents. He would now state the paper found in a pocket-book in Quigley's great coat, fully persuaded, when he had gone the length of proving, in the manner required by law, that any man or number of men, had such a paper in their possession, for the purpose of carrying to those to whom it was addressed, it would be impossible for the Jury to say such a circumstance did not amount to the offence of high treason. The paper was in these words:—

THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF ENGLAND, TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY OF FRANCE.

CITIZENS DIRECTORS!

We are called together on the wing of the moment, to communicate to you our sentiments. The Citizen who now presents them to you, and who was the bearer of them before, having but a few hours to remain in town, expect not a laboured Address; but plainness is the characteristic of Republicans. The power of our Tyrants to disturb the peace of the whole world is at an end. They have tried to raise a kind of forced loan: It has failed. Every tax diminishes that revenue it was intended to augment, and the voluntary contributions have produced nothing. The Aristocracy pay their taxes under the mask of voluntary contributions. The poor workmen in manufactories are forced to submit to pay towards them, under threats of being turned out of their employments if they do not subscribe. Even the soldiers have been compelled; but by far the greater part resist, and the few that have submitted have either been cajoled through fear, or compelled by force. Affairs are drawing to an awful crisis. Tyranny, shaken to its base, is ready to expire in its own ruins. With the Tyranny of England, that of all Europe must fall. Haste then, Great Nation, pour forth thy gigantic force; let the base despots feel thine avenging stroke, and let one oppressed nation enrol forth the praises of France at the Altar of Liberty. We saw with rapture your Proclamations; they met our warmest wishes, and removed doubts from the minds of millions. Go on!—Englishmen will be ready to second your efforts. Englishmen are no longer blind to the sacred flame of liberty. Every day they see themselves bereaved of some part of the democracy of their Constitution—injuries are added to injuries; and they find that, in order to possess a Constitution, they must make one. Parliament declaimers have been the bane of the people; they wish to rise up our detractors; they wish to share with the Government in the national plunder; and it is the interest of each to keep the people in the dark. They have pulled off the disguise; and the very men who, under the semblance of moderate reform, only wish to climb to power, are now willing to fall into the ranks of the people; yes, they have fallen into the ranks, and there they must ever remain, for Englishmen can never place confidence in them; already have the English fraternized with the Irish and the Scotch, and a delegate from each now sits with us. The sacred flame of liberty is rekindled; the holy obligation of brotherhood is received with enthusiasm. Even in the fleets and armies it makes some progress; diffidence prevails in both; and united Britain pants to burst her chains: unfortunately we have no leader; avarice and cowardice pervade the rich; but we are not the less united. Some few of the opulent have indeed, by speeches, professed themselves the friends of democracy, but they have not acted; they have considered themselves as distinct from the people; and the people in return will consider their claims as unjust and frivolous. They wish to place us in the front of the battle, that, unsupported by the wealth they enjoy, we may perish, while they may hope to raise themselves on our ruin; but let them be told, that though we may fall through their criminal neglect, they can never enslave us; and that Englishmen, once free, will never submit to a few political impostors. United as we are, we only wish to see the Hero of Italy, and the invincible army of the Great Nation. Myriads will hail their arrival, and they will soon finish the campaign. Tyranny will vanish, and your veteran troops will return to their native country, there to enjoy that happiness which they shall have purchased with their blood.—Dated 6 Pluviose, A.R.G.

He then proceeded to state the circumstances under which the prisoners had gone from London, in order to shew their connection with each other.

The prisoner Binns, who went by the name of Williams, occupied the lodgings of a brother of his named Benjamin Binns, at the house of one Evans, Secretary to the London Corresponding Society, Plough Court, Fetter-Lane; and it would be found that, previous to the 21st of February, the prisoner Binns had hired a room, which formed part of the apartments of a Mrs Smith, in the same house.—On the 21st, Binns left London for the purpose of hiring a vessel to go to France, to carry the above paper, and such other intelligence as might be necessary. He went to Gravesend, took the coach to Rochester, and proceeded to Canterbury, where he applied to two persons of the names of Claris and Mahoney; and, pretending to have some concern in the smuggling line, expressed a wish to have a recommendation to some person at Whitstable, in order to procure a vessel to go across. They mentioned the names of several persons who let out vessels.—Binns then went to Whitstable, and applied to the persons whom he should call to prove the fact, for a vessel to go to Flushing. It was represented to him that he could not have a boat to go there, on account of its being an enemy's port, and an embargo been laid on all vessels. He then proposed that the vessel should go to Havre, Calais, Dunkirk, or some other port; but on its being still represented how extremely hazardous such a service was, Binns observed there was no hazard at all, and that he had the means of insuring the safe return of the vessel; and he even intimated the probability of the person belonging to the vessel obtaining a cargo to come back with. They, however, repeated the danger of the voyage, and the necessity of being amply paid. The result was, it was proposed that 300 guineas should be deposited by Binns

in the Canterbury Bank, as a security for the return of the vessel, and that one hundred guineas should be given for the trip, in case the vessel should come back. This happened on Friday the 23d of February. Binns did not agree to these terms; he thought them too extravagant; and therefore returned to Canterbury the next morning, and from thence went to Deal on the Saturday, to try if he could not get a vessel on better terms. He there made the same sort of propositions to the witnesses, who would be called, as he had done at Whitstable. He agreed to give 60 guineas for a boat to go to Flushing, Havre, &c. On Saturday evening he returned to Canterbury with the intention of proceeding to London before the other prisoners at the bar should have set out, but he did not arrive in London before they had departed on board the Whitstable Hoy. It was now necessary to state the conduct of the other prisoners:—On the Saturday Binns had returned from Canterbury, the prisoner O'Connor, who had a lodging in Stratton-street, was intimate with a person of the name of Bell, a merchant who lived in Charterhouse-square, at whose house he occasionally dined and slept; and where Quigley, under the assumed name of Captain Jones, occasionally dined, as the friend of O'Connor. On the Saturday O'Connor and Quigley dined with Mr Bell, and there O'Connor slept; Quigley slept at No. 14, Plough-court, the lodging of Allen, who represented his servant. The ATTORNEY GENERAL said, before he proceeded to bring the parties together on board the Whitstable Hoy, he would state that O'Connor wrote a letter to Binns, under the name of Williams, at Canterbury; which letter he desired his friend Mr Bell to direct, and which was to this effect:—

Dear Friend, I set out to-morrow morning in the Whitstable Hoy, and hope to be with you at night: I shall take all the parcels you speak of with me. I am your's sincerely,
P. I got your letters. JAMES WILLIAMS

O'Connor, and Leary, his servant, set out from Mr Bell's on Sunday, and the others having slept together.—[Here a chalm appears in the Attorney General's speech.]

On the morning of this day when the baggage came on shore, part of it was searched by the Custom-house Officers; and the other part, they were told by the prisoner Leary, could not be searched, because he said his master Colonel Morris had the keys of the boxes, and he was going to the West-Indies.—The three prisoners seemed very careful lest the baggage should be searched. The whole of it was then in a cart to Margate; and they walked with the person whom the cart belonged to, until they arrived at Margate. In the mean time Binns had gone to Deal; in his way it was very probable that he met O'Connor by appointment, as the latter had walked out of the town of Whitstable on the Monday already mentioned; and they both came to Margate about an hour after the other three prisoners had arrived there. Now, from all these circumstances, and from the several papers found in their possession, and which were to be given in evidence; it must appear most clearly that the prisoners had been engaged in one common transaction.—Now, with respect to their denying luggage, which he should prove they had had in their care, he could not form any conception how persons should feel a desire to shake off all knowledge of property that had been in their possession; unless they had been apprehensive that the owning of it would bring home guilt to them. Nor could he conceive how it was possible to shew that they had not an intention to go to France. With respect to Mr O'Connor, there was one circumstance to which he should beg leave to call the most serious attention of the Jury. This was a letter that had been found in his possession at the time he was taken. The letter was to the following effect:—

My dear friend, I have had a letter ready to send you these ten days, and could get no opportunity of conveying it. You cannot think how that circumstance has vexed me. Maxwell is anxious to go away from his creditors, and I had no way of getting him off, for this embargo prevents him. It is said that Lord Fitzwilliam intends going over to Ireland; and great hopes are entertained of separating the Catholics from the Union. This would be a thing much to be lamented, and which you and every good man must endeavour to prevent. But the people are too honest, and are not to be misled any more by courtiers. I have received your letter by the young man; and I will do all I can for him. I will make it a point with Maxwell that he shall go by the way of Hamburg. The man of confidence told me he had heard that government had intercepted a letter from France to Ireland, which promised assistance to the latter country. The Government here are put to great straits.—The taxes are very low. The Black Terrier, and his little brother, are sorry curs. The Little Priest has lost all credit.—Chevalier was the person who wrote to me; and he said he would have nothing to do with Nicholson, or any of his set, as they were fallen into contempt. I wish to have an edition of my pamphlet printed in Ireland; the price shall be 3s. 6d. and no copy must be sold to any except persons who are known. I must go to Williams as soon as I can, when I must be very active—when I am at this place you shall hear more from me.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL, after reading the above letter, said, he should be able to shew what was meant by certain words in it, from another paper found in Mr O'Connor's possession, and which was a kind of key to these words—the words being placed in one column, and an explanatory word immediately opposite to each, in a corresponding column. The corresponding word to Williams, for instance, was France; This place, signified Paris, &c. This letter was directed to Lord Edward Fitzgerald; and from every circumstance attending it, it was impossible that Mr O'Connor could say he had not been privy to the design of going to France, especially when it should be proved that he had held the fort of connection he did hold. It would also appear that he had a connection with Quigley, and carried on a correspondence with him. The Jury would find that, among the quantity of goods found in the possession of the prisoners, there was money to the amount of about 900l. or 1000l. Then he would ask, whether this property was of such little value that it was not worth owning by any, but abandoned by all the prisoners? The box which contained the money would prove the connection that existed between Quigley and O'Connor, from the circumstance of a part of the money being the property of the former. After having given this general outline of these facts, he felt it his duty, in the next place, to say a word or two upon the law relating to this question. What he had to state was this, that when several prisoners were acting in a conspiracy together, the act of any one of them was the act of the whole; and if any one act should make out this conspiracy, and it appeared that they

all knew of it, though the act of only one person, it was then the duty of the Jury to find them all guilty.

John Revett, the first witness sworn.—He apprehended all the prisoners at Margate, on the 28th of February. There were four of the light horse with him. In the parlour, on the left-hand side, in the King's Head, where the prisoners were, he found Leary and Allen, and found Binns at the bottom of the stairs. He then went up, and found Quigley with the tea things before him. I secured him. In his left-hand pocket I found a dagger. At this time Mr O'Connor came into the room, and I asked his name. He asked me who I was, and what I was? I told him; and that I was an officer. I searched him, and found in his purse a bit of paper, containing a name written with a pencil. I found in a great coat pocket a pocket-book, and a paper in it. I took them down to the parlour, where the luggage was. I asked the prisoners who the pocket-book belonged to? They refused to own it, and would give no account of it. I went up stairs, and found a small trunk, asked O'Connor if he would own it? He said, Not. I found that great coat (pointing to it.) I asked the prisoners if they knew whose it was? They said not. In the pocket-book there were some other papers, which I marked. (Here the papers were produced, and the witnesses swore to them.) In a black portmanteau opened at Bow Street, I saw several papers. I brought the prisoners, after this, to Bow Street, where they were examined, together with some of the boxes.

Edward Fugion, next sworn.—Examined by Mr GARROW, and deposed nearly as above.

Mr Twopenny.—I saw the great coat, and the prisoners all denied it. Rivett had it below stairs when I first saw it. He gave nearly the same evidence with the two last witnesses.

Ann Cricket.—I keep the King's Head at Margate; baggage came in a cart; three gentlemen were along with it: two came afterwards. I can swear that the prisoners were those persons. Mr Quigley, who first came to my house, gave me a parcel. When the other two gentlemen came, they made an enquiry after him. I carried the message to him by the name of Captain Jones. He said he would wait on them. The three gentlemen spent the evening together, and slept at my house that night, and there were no other strangers in the house at the time. There was no other great coat in the house, the property of any of the family, nor of any body else.

Jane Dexter, servant to the former witness.—She saw the prisoner Quigley come to the house in Margate, in company with three gentlemen, who slept there.—She knew nothing of any great coat.

William Kirby, stable-keeper at Margate.—An application was made to me on the 27th. Leary and Allen, at the King's Head, wanted to take a cart to carry some luggage to Deal. I told them I would take them the following morning; but before that time they were in custody.

Frederick Dutton, an Irishman, and a Quartermaster in the army, sworn.—I know Quigley; I have seen his hand writing, the manner of which I have a knowledge of.—(The paper relating to merchandise and quarter, read by the Attorney General, was then produced and sworn to be his hand-writing.)

Cross examined by Mr Plomer.

He said he had been a servant; is now a quartermaster.—Being asked if he had been a livery servant, he said not; and again acknowledged he had worn a livery once. He had given evidence sometimes before in Courts of Justice. He once lived in Dundalk in Ireland. He never applied to Mr Cooke for a quartermaster's warrant, nor did he ever ask any thing from Government for his services; but he hoped he and his family would be provided for. Mr Plomer then shewed him a letter, which he said he believed to be his hand-writing. It was an application to Lord Carhampton for a quartermaster's warrant. He was examined once as a witness against one Lowry. He there acknowledged he had sworn secrecy, and afterwards divulged it; but excused himself by saying he had sworn the first oath on a reading made easy. The witness has been a quartermaster since last winter.

Mr Lane, attorney of Cork, sworn.—He saw Mr O'Connor write, and believed several papers produced in Court to be his hand-writing.

Kenn Mahoney, keeper a shop at Canterbury, remembered seeing Binns on 23d of February, at Canterbury. He told the witnesses there were some friends of his on the other side very much distressed; that he wanted to establish something in the smuggling line, and wished to know any persons at Whitstable, who used to let boats. He said his friends in London wanted to go to Flushing or Ostend. Binns went to London, and returned by way of one of the Gravesend boats. He said his reason for coming back so soon was, that his friends had left London in a Whitstable hoy. He then went to another house—the Rose. The witnesses went to the Post Office to enquire for letters for him, in the name of Williams; where he got two, and delivered them to him. Binns then told the witnesses, that as he was a countryman he would tell him his name was Binns, but from having been prosecuted before that, he did not wish he, furious people of Canterbury should know his name.

Mr Parkins keeps a public-house at Whitstable. Quigley and O'Connor slept in my house; I learned that one was Colonel Morris, and the other Captain Jones, from the discourse between the servants in the tap-room; Mr Quigley asked me if I could accommodate him with a boat to Margate? I enquired of Edward Ward, who asked a guinea and a half for the boat. He asked me if there was any danger of his baggage being searched? He went away, however, without any boat, and took a cart, in which he carried baggage, being asked if he was going to Dover, and if he had any correspondence across the water? He said, he had some at Amsterdam. I carried a letter for him directed to his friends at the place.

Mr King, Under Secretary of State, sworn. He was present when a small mahogany trunk was broke open at the Duke of Portland's office. He sealed it up. It contained guineas, louis d'ors, &c. amounting to 1000l. In a canvas bag found in the box, there was a paper marked by the witness's initials; this paper was tied to the money, it stood for Captain Jones, and described the quantity of money contained in it (75 guineas). The witnesses found nothing else but the rouleaus. The rouleaus were not all alike. There were in the box four ivory cylinders taken out of a dressing-box, with a black leather cover with guineas in them.

He found a scrap of paper, which was taken out of the dressing-box. It was a direction to write by William Williams from Canterbury.

Mr Ford was present when a small money box was broke open. He saw a dressing box with a black leather case broke open. They were not opened at Bow-street, and the Secretary of State ordered them to be brought to his office, where they were broke open. Binns immediately acknowledged his name, as did O'Connor. The particulars of Quigley's examination were taken down in writing. Mr O'Connor declined answering any question till he came before the Secretary of State.

Jonas King, tide waiter at Whitstable, saw all the prisoners; some at Whitstable, and some at Margate. In February last he saw the goods, part of which he did not examine. Quigley said Colonel Morris had the key and was going to the West Indies. He saw Binns at Margate, and told him he thought him the person he saw with the goods, and Binns seemed surprised that he should mention such a thing.

Thomas Hockley, a part owner of the Whitstable hoy, saw Quigley before. He went to receive the freight from him. He paid the witness one guinea, in the name of Col. Morris for parcels and passengers.

Henry Thompsett, of Offham, in the county of Kent, labourer, was at the Bear and Key, at Whitstable, on the 26th of February. The man in his hearing demanded a guinea and a half for the carriage of the goods; the witness said he would take them for a guinea, and agreed to it. Col. Morris was not there at the time—but he (the witness) settled with Capt. Jones to go to Margate. Capt. Jones walked along with him, and told the witness if he met Col. Morris he should soon return to London, as Col. Morris was going to the West Indies. Capt. Jones asked the witness his business, and he told him what he was, and that the people of Whitstable were all in a bubble about these people, and did not know what to think of them. Capt. Jones said, in a conversation to hint, that he had been at sea, and had been commander of the Morgan Rattler in the last war. When they got to the inn at Margate he took out a coat, and gave it to his servant, Allen; it was something like the coat in Court, but he could not say it was it. The witness seeing O'Connor after this, said to Allen the servant, is that Col. Morris? The other replied—"By Jesus I don't know;" and afterwards said—"By Jesus it is." Captain Jones gave him the guinea for the carriage of the goods.

Cross examined by Mr Dallas.

He said, he had declared he would take 100l. from Mr O'Connor; he would not take it for bribery. He knew no such woman as Mary Morgan. A brother of his, from Newgate, came and offered him 300l. for going away, and not giving evidence against the prisoners; but he only heard his brother say that the prisoners wished him to go away.

Nicholas Glead who keeps the San inn at Canterbury, remembers Binns coming to his house on Sunday, the 25th. Binns said he was much fatigued with his journey, and asked him when the Whitstable hoy would be in? Letters were brought to the prisoner. One Mahon, who was with him, asked what he would do? Binns wished to go to Whitstable, and Mahon advised him to stay and take the morning. The witness never saw him after that till he was in custody in Canterbury, when he went to see him; and he told the witness that he knew nothing of him, and desired him with a deal of haughtiness to get out of the room.

Mary Lemon was servant to the last witness. She said, a person had slept at her master's house on the above-mentioned night, but she could not identify his person. She said, that Mr O'Connor and Binns were the persons who came back; but she could not identify them in the Court. The witness was brought nearer to the bar, in order that it might be seen whether she could identify the prisoners. When she got there, she pointed to Mr O'Connor as the person who had slept at her master's house, and persisted in saying so. After that, she pointed to Binns, and said that he was the person who slept there.

Mr Justice BULLER—"This woman is puzzled, and does not know what she says. I don't think it worth while to make an observation on her evidence."

Oliver Carlton, Esq. High Constable of Dublin. He found certain papers in Leinster House, Dublin, the apartments of Lord Edward Fitzgerald.

Cross examined by Mr Plomer.

He believed Mr O'Connor was in custody in the Castle of Dublin; that he had been a member of the Irish House of Commons, and was nephew to Lord Longueville. He did not know when Mr O'Connor left Ireland.

Mr Abbot, who lives in Cork, Ireland.—Saw Mr O'Connor write, and believed letters shewed him to be his hand-writing. Those were the same which Mr Lane spoke to; and were mentioned in the Attorney General's speech; one letter alluding to Mr Maxwell, who was to go to Hamburg—the black terrier, the little priest, &c. The paper that was proved to be in the razor-case was next read: In it the different names were explained. Williams was France; Bantry, Chesapeake; Dublin Bay, Honduras Bay; 1000 men, 1000l.; a ship of the line, a hoghead; a cannon, a jar; military stores, merchandise; horses, books; Paris, this place; L. O. Lord Fitz. &c. &c. Another was read, addressed to Roger O'Connor from Arthur O'Connor, stating that he had sold all his property to Burdett, and the rents were to be transmitted to Hugh Bell, and Sweeney was to collect the rents; it stated, that The Courier only was to be sent to Ireland, the morning papers being mere lumber, and it was useless to have any others for The Priests: That nothing was worse than the state of the finances in England, and that Scotland was all Irish; and the people in England wished for a change, but would not strike.

Frederick Dutton again called.—Swore to a letter bearing the hand-writing of Coigly. The letter was directed to Citizen Edward Fitzgerald, commonly called Lord Edward Fitzgerald.

Cross examined.—He was asked how many informations he had laid, and if he had laid fifty? The witness said, he could not tell; and threw himself on the protection of the Court.

Mr Justice BULLER—"I cannot see what he means by throwing himself under the protection of the Court."

Mr GURNEY—"He had good reason for doing so;" and observed, that he meant to impeach his evidence by shewing him to be a common informer.

The witnesses then said, he had laid no information.

Mr GARROW did not think that a man's being what is called a Government spy would impeach his testimony.

ny in the present state of affairs, when he might be only advancing the public justice of the country.

Mr GURNEY replied, that he never meant to impeach the testimony of one who advanced the justice of the country.

Mr Ford again called.

He took the examination of Coigly in writing; was present when the prisoners were examined before the Secretary of State. Some of them refused to sign them. —He took down the examinations which were read at the time. Being cross-examined, he said the reason of their refusing to sign was not that of their being incorrect. Most prisoners when brought before the Council were desired not to answer, if they thought their answers would criminate themselves.

Q. From Mr O'Connor.—Do you recollect that I objected to having my examination taken down in writing?—A. Yes, I do.

Q. Was not the written examination incorrect?—A. You said it was not exactly the same as you spoke it.

Mr FERGUSON asked if the prisoner Allen had been desired to sign his examination: Ans. The witness was not certain.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL asked what name Quigley gave?—The answer was, Favy. [The examinations of Quigley was then read.] One was taken by the witness at Bow-street, and another at the Secretary of State's Office. He said he was in no particular profession; and declined answers whither he was in orders. That he had no particular acquaintance with O'Connor. Did not know what name O'Connor went by. Examined in good health, and wished to repair it by going to Margate. He denied the great coat and the paper in it. The dagger he bought in Capel-street, Dublin. He knew Evans in Plough-court, but did not know of his belonging to the Corresponding Society.

SIXTH DAY.

The Court being met, Mr PLOMER was heard in defence of Mr O'Connor and Mr Quigley; Mr FERGUSON for Mr Allen; Mr SCOTT for Leary, and Mr GURNEY for Mr Binn.

THE DEFENCE.

Jeremiah Haffet, keeper of the Round Tower in the Castle of Dublin sworn.

He remembers Mr O'Connor being kept in close confinement there. He was suffered to see two friends, and no other. He recollected two shots being fired at the part where he was confined, in the month of June last. He was leaning over the parapet wall, and Mr O'Connor two stories under him. The shots were fired by two Highland Fencibles at the same time, about seven o'clock in the evening. The first man having fired, turned round to the other, and bid him fire also. From that time Mr O'Connor did not go to the window to look out.

The Earl of *Maira* said, he had a little knowledge of Mr O'Connor: He once conversed with him on political subjects; had but one particular conversation with him, which his Lordship was going to relate—but the Court would not allow this evidence to be given.

Cornelius Kille knew Henry Thompset; heard him say he conveyed the prisoners from Whitehall to Margate, that they paid him handsomely. He said it would be a good job, and he would not take fool for it.

Cross-examined.—Thompset said to the witness that he had been to London, and he found that there was rare living there: Good wine was a good thing in a man's belly. There was a great coat, which he supposed belonged to some of them. He said it contained matters of very great importance, such as a printed letter, being an address to the French Directory. He was asked if he knew any thing of the coat, and he said not, nor could he swear to it. Thompset said he was allowed something; that he had been before Pitt, Dundas and White; told them he was a smuggler, and that they settled on him six guineas a month till the trials were over. Then the witness told him—"My poor man, they will nurse you."

Mr *Sarah Job*, sister to Thompset remembered seeing Thompset at her house the day the prisoners were arraigned. She asked him what he meant to do with the prisoners? Says he, "Hang them, to be sure."—"I hope not," said the witness. He then said, "If they had too lives, I would take them all."

Mary Morgan, servant to Mrs Job—heard words between her mistress and Thompset on the 9th March. Her mistress asked what he had to say concerning the prisoners—he said he would hang them.

The Hon. *Thomas Erskine* sworn.—He has known Mr O'Connor three years, and knows a great number of his friends in the country with whom Mr O'Connor lived principally. Being asked as to Mr O'Connor's character, he said he had the best character that any man could possess. He was a man of the strictest honour and integrity, and one who had made great sacrifices to what he thought was right. If there appeared any prominent feature more than another in his character, it is a noble mindedness, and a high spirit of honour; and he thought himself bound to declare, that he had ever considered him incapable of acting with treachery to any man, and especially to any he had a regard for. Mr Erskine knew him to have been in the constant practice of professing not only a regard, but admiration and enthusiasm for the persons whom he associated with. "I never found him (said Mr E.) so help me God! to alter that regard; I never knew him to have any other connexions; nor did I know of his professing political principles different from me—I never had any reason to think that his principles differed from my own, as well on public as on private subjects." He saw Mr O'Connor in January last in his own house. He might have defended him as counsel, were it not that he thought his evidence would be more useful. He advised Mr O'Connor in January last to leave this kingdom.

The Hon. *Charles James Fox*.—I have known Mr O'Connor very well these three or four years, and had occasion to see him frequently. I always considered him as a person well-affected to his country. I considered him as a man highly enlightened, and firmly attached to the principles which feated the present family on the throne, and to which principles we owe all our liberty; I am acquainted with Lord Edward Fitzgerald, who is a near relation of mine. I believe Lord Edward Fitzgerald was anxious to go to France concerning some his wife, who had property there. Knowing the political state of that country, and that a law against going there existed in this, I advised him not to enter the

French territory on any account, if he went on the Continent. I can describe Mr O'Connor to be one of the openest characters I ever knew.

Cross-examined by the Solicitor-General.

He did not see Mr O'Connor write. I and my friends always approved of what Lord Fitzwilliam intended to do in Ireland towards the Catholics; but I was always of opinion, and am still, that the concessions to the Catholics would be of no use without extending to Protestants what they had a right to. It was my opinion, that it would be for the happiness of Ireland if Presbyterians and Catholics were united. Mr O'Connor almost always conversed on Irish politics.

The Earl of *Suffolk*.—I knew Mr O'Connor this time eleven years; I got acquainted with him in Ireland, on my passage from Dublin to Cork, to my regiment. When I met Mr O'Connor, I was struck with his manner, which was extremely gentleman-like. We travelled together, and I had a very friendly communication with him. I conversed chiefly about Ireland. About two years ago I had a conversation with him, and saw for much of him. I told Lady Suffolk I had met with one of the most extraordinary young men I ever saw. I so much admired his political character, that two years ago I introduced him to the Duke of Norfolk, the Bishop of Llandaff, and Sergeant Adair.

Mr *Sheridan*.—I have known Mr O'Connor these three years past, and have frequently seen him since. From the opinion I had of his principles, I always conversed with him on political subjects without any reserve. —His character was remarkable for its openness; he conversed on the politics relating to both England and Ireland with great frankness. But he often spoke about Ireland. He concerned himself so much about the grievances of that country, that he wondered how the people of England could complain of any. The very last time he was with me, I advised him to remain in this country. I know of Lady Edward Fitzgerald, who had once been called Pamela, having had a property in France, which the said Edward Fitzgerald could never recover. I had opportunity of knowing this from the lady with whom Pamela had been brought up. It had been intended to sell this property.

Cross-examined by Mr Garroo.

He said he never knew of Mr O'Connor having been acquainted with a man of the name of Captain James, nor was any such person ever introduced to him by Mr O'Connor; but Mr O'Connor said, that if he should be obliged to leave the kingdom, he must form some connections for the purpose of getting away, which he would not wish to form. He never knew Mr O'Connor under a fictitious name. He never met any man in his life who so much reprobated the idea of any party in the country desiring French assistance. The Attorney General objected to this answer being given; but Mr Sheridan said, he had been guilty of a most unpardonable neglect in not mentioning the circumstance before. He never saw any change in Mr O'Connor's political conduct, except that of his being driven from his own country and friends, and his endeavouring to go abroad.

Duke of *Norfolk*.—I saw Mr O'Connor at different times. From what I know, I considered him as a gentleman warm in the political line, and attached to the constitution in the same manner as myself.

Mr *Grattan*, of Ireland. —I know Mr O'Connor since the year 1792 very well; never had an opinion that he would favour an invasion of his country.

Lord *John Russell*.—I am acquainted with Mr O'Connor; I knew him in 1796 and this year; I always had a very high opinion of his principles, which were found, rational and constitutional. I never had occasion to discover that he would favour an invasion of the French. It is a common practice for gentlemen going abroad to travel in a military dress; I did so myself in 1795; it is a convenient practice.

Lord *Tanet*.—I was acquainted with Mr O'Connor, I had the highest opinion of his political character, and never observed any change in those principles. I have travelled on the Continent, and had regimentals, though never in the army.

Lord *Oxford*.—The character of Mr O'Connor was that of a perfect loyal man. I never observed in him any disposition favourable to the French. I do not know any of the other prisoners.

Mr *Whitbread*.—I know Mr O'Connor, and his political principles are the same as my own. From the conversation I had with him, I collected that he was a friend to the Country, and wished its abuses to be reformed by Parliament alone.

Several other witnesses were then examined in support of the defence.

Mr *Dallas* proceeded to comment on the evidence on the part of the prisoners, and the Attorney General to reply.

The prisoners were then severally called upon to state what they had to say in their defence.

Mr *Coigly*.—"Gentlemen of the Jury, it is impossible for me to prove a negative: but it is a duty I owe to you, and to myself, solemnly to declare, that I never was the bearer of any message or paper of this kind to France, in the course of my life. That paper is not mine, it never belonged to me. It states that it was to be carried by the bearer of the last; this is something which might have been proved, but it is impossible for me to prove the negative. There is also in this paper an allusion to secret committees and political societies. I declare that I never attended any political society whatever. With these considerations, I consign my life to your justice; not doubting but that you will conduct yourself as English Jurymen ever do, and that your verdict will be such as shall receive the approbation of your own Conscience, your Country, and your God."

Mr *Binn*.—"When I reflect upon the manner in which the evidence has been commented on by my Counsel, I should think it would be insulting your understanding and discrimination were I to trouble you with any observations of mine. Confused of my innocence I leave my case entirely to you."

Mr *O'Connor*.—"I have been so ably and so eloquently defended by my Counsel, that I am not desirous of adding a word to what they have said. I rest my case with the jury, as they have stated it."

Mr *Allen*.—"I do not think myself called upon to address the jury—I have not seen any thing in the evidence tending to criminate me."

Court.—"Has the other prisoner any thing to say to the jury?"

Leary.—"My Lord, they may do what they like with me."

At half past one, the jury, after a very able and impartial charge from Mr Justice Buller, having retired about half an hour, returned a verdict of

Guilty against O'Coigly,

Not Guilty against all the other prisoners.

Mr Justice BULLER, observed that there was no circumstance favourable to the prisoner on which he should conceive the prisoner could expect mercy. He then passed the usual sentence for high treason on James O'Coigly.

As soon as Mr Justice Buller had pronounced sentence of death against Coigly, a very uncommon, and, indeed we believe, unprecedented scene took place in the Court.—Two Bow Street officers, who had been stationed there for the purpose, attempted to seize Mr O'Connor, while yet at the bar. This was prevented by the Court; but, some minutes afterwards, they attempted it again. This induced Mr O'Connor to get into the body of the Court; on which an immense number of peace officers rushed in, and the Court was thrown into the utmost confusion. Two swords which were lying on the table (part of the prisoners baggage) were drawn by some persons, and several people were struck with them. One gentleman was knocked down, without any cause; and the tumult seemed to forebode dangerous consequences. By this time Mr O'Connor was seized, and dragged back again to the bar, when, silence being restored, he applied to the Court for protection, and to know what right he had to be seized, being now cleared from all charge by the Jury's verdict.

A warrant was then produced by the Bow-street officers, signed by the Duke of Portland, and dated as far back as the 22d of March, to arrest Arthur O'Connor, Esq. on a charge of High Treason.

The Counsel submitted to the Court, that he had been tried and fairly acquitted on that charge; and moved that he might be liberated.

The Court said, that they had no power to do that, their authority having ended with their commission.—They hinted that an affidavit might be filed in the King's Bench, which would force the Counsel on the part of the Crown to shew why he should not be liberated.

Mr O'Connor.—"May I be permitted to speak a few words?"

Mr Justice Buller.—"What have you got to say, Mr O'Connor?"

Mr O'Connor.—"Will the officers take their hands off? — If I am again to be confined, may I not beg the indulgence of being sent to the same place as my brother?—I have seen swords drawn upon me, after my acquittal, in this Court.—I am not afraid of death.—If I am to die, let me die here. Life is not worth preserving on the terms I now hold it.—For if I must waste it out in loathsome dungeons, another confinement will soon be fatal to me."

Having finished his speech, he then was remanded back into custody of the gaoler.—All the prisoners were sent back to jail.

His Majesty, we are concerned to learn, is a good deal troubled with a rheumatic affection, which, we trust, however, exercise will wholly remove.

Dispatches in four days were yesterday received from Earl St. Vincent at Lisbon. An attack had been made on the British fleet by a number of gun-boats in Cadiz Bay, the result was very favourable to the British. Several of the enemy's gun-boats were sunk; but we are sorry to add, that owing to the peculiar situation of his Majesty's ship the *Alexander*, she was considerably raked by the Spanish shot, and that a Lieutenant of the navy, and a Lieutenant of the Marines on board her were killed, together with some seamen.

Dispatches have been received from Sir Richard Strachan, who has resumed his station off Havre. This gallant and vigilant officer was, it seems, a few nights ago, in a situation of peril from which he extricated himself by that presence and firmness of mind which he has, upon many occasions, so singularly displayed.—Standing close in shore, to watch the motions of some gun-boats, the *Diamond* was, by the strength of the wind and tide operating together, driven up the Seine above Honfleur. Sir Richard was called to strike his colours from the fort. He returned for answer, he would beat the town about their ears if they dared to fire a shot at his ship. The Frenchmen took the hint, and were silent. He was next attacked by eleven gun-boats, four of which he sunk, and, upon the change of the tide, he brought his ship out without her having sustained any material damage.

Eighteen Dutch Doggers; the Young Pieter, Klien, from Amsterdam, and a Hov, from Dantzic, are sent into Yarmouth, by Admiral Onslow's fleet.

The Hamburg mail due on Sunday last, arrived this morning, but brings nothing of importance.

—STOCKS—

BANK STOCK	11 1/2	INDIA STOCK	13 1/2
3 per cent. con.	48 1/2	Long Ann.	13 1/2
4 per cent. con.	48 1/2	Short	13 1/2
5 per cent. Ann.	74 1/2	Quinn	13 1/2

Caledonian Mercury.

EDINBURGH—MAY 26.

[FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.]

HOUSE OF COMMONS, May 23.

ARTHUR O'CONNOR.

Mr ST JOHN said, a circumstance of very great importance had just come to his knowledge, and if, upon further enquiry, he found it to be true, he should certainly consider it to be his duty to bring it in some shape or another before the House. He alluded to what had happened last night at Maidstone, where he understood Mr O'CONNOR had been apprehended, at the very moment of his acquittal, under a warrant dated two months ago. This was a transaction of so extraordinary a nature that he had no hesitation in declaring his intention of calling the consideration of the House to it, whenever his enquiries should be satisfied as to the particulars of the fact.

DUBLIN, MAY 21.
LORD EDWARD FITZGERALD.

Saturday, information being received that Lord Edward was concealed in the house of Mr Murphy, feather merchant, in Thomas Street, Mr Justice Swan, Major Sirr, and Captain Ryan repaired thither with a party of seven soldiers in two coaches. While the other gentlemen were arranging the soldiers to prevent an escape, Mr Swan burst into a two pair of stairs room, where Lord Edward was in bed, with his waistcoat, breeches, and stockings on.—On Mr Swan's announcing the nature of his visit, Lord Edward flatted from the bed, armed with a poignard, closed on Mr Swan, and in the conflict made several flabs, which cut his coat and waist-coat in different places; shifting the weapon to his left hand, Lord Edward gave Mr Swan a severe wound under the left breast. Mr Swan then drew a double barrelled pistol, and frequently urged, though vainly, a surrender, when, finding himself desperately wounded, he fired, and lodged two balls in Lord Edward's arm. The noise of the pistol brought up Capt. Ryan, who was assailed also by Lord Edward and received a number of flabs, one of which taking a transverse direction at the abdomen, let out his intestines. Major Sirr by this time joined his friends, and with a pistol wounded Lord Edward, from whom, at length, Mr Swan wrested the dagger, and in the act had his hands very much cut. Lord Edward being secured, was brought to the Castle and examined, and from thence committed to Newgate, where he lies in a sad situation.

On a search made in the house of Mr Murphy, (who has been arrested) a regimental coat and cap supposed to be a pattern military habit for United Irishmen, were found, as it is said, among the baggage of Lord Edward Fitzgerald.

Friday, Mr Justice Drury received information, that pike heads were making by two smiths in a lane adjoining to Thomas-street. On searching the forge, nothing of the kind could be discovered, but having certain information of the fact, the Justice proceeded to inflict some bodily pain on one of the smiths, notwithstanding he persisted in the most positive denial of his concern or knowledge of any such business; at length it was discovered the pike heads they had made were hid in an adjoining house, which they found on a search. It appeared that there was a large hole from one of the rooms into the forge, from whence they conveyed them as soon as finished.

Saturday, a young man was brought before the superintendent Magistrate, in consequence of his appearing in a garb which, at such a perturbed state as the present, was conceived to be indicative of a seditious disposition, and committed to Newgate.

Several muskets were yesterday found in a public house in Bridge-street.

Upwards of one hundred finished pikes were brought in by the peasantry on Friday to Powercourt.

Saturday was married at Glanmire, near Cork, Lieutenant WILSON, of the Elgin Fencibles, to Miss JEAN PATTERSON, daughter to Robert Patterson, Esq. George's Street.

Died at Cardross on the 22d inst. the Right Honorable Lady RACHEL DRUMMOND, daughter of the late Earl of Perth.

Died at Newhall, near Cromarty, on Saturday last, the 19th current, Doctor HUGH GILLIES, Physician to the Embassy to China under the Earl of Macartney, and Physician General to the army at the Cape of Good Hope, from whence he returned lately on account of bad health.

From an account recently taken, it appears, that the quantity of whisky, in the stock of the distillers and dealers in Glasgow and neighbourhood, exceeds 430,000 gallons.

The act lately passed for repairing several roads in the counties of Stirling, Dumbarton, and Perth, contains a clause, introduced by a Justice of the Peace for Stirlingshire, imposing a double toll on all travellers on Sundays and King's fairs.

Shipping Intelligence.

The armed brig *Leith*, commanded by Lieutenant James Watson, arrived safe at London, the 21st inst. with seven ships under her convoy, all well, after a passage of three days from Leith Roads.

—ARRIVED AT LEITH—

May 23. *Peggy* and Brothers, Blues, from Berwick, grain—Roxburgh Packet, Taylor, from London, goods—Archibald, Scott, from Gottenburgh, iron and deals—Elizabeth and *Peggy*, Cathbush, from Dundee, mail—William and James, Brown, from Perth, do.—Catharine and Isabel, Nairn, from do. goods—Mary Rose, Douglas, from North Berwick, grain

—CLEARED OUT—

Leith Packet, Scott, for London, goods—*Neptune*, Hull, for do. do.—*Peggy*, Cormack, for Aberdeen, do.—*Fisher*, Hewison, for Kirkwall, do.—*Mary*, Allan, for do. do.

SOUND INTELLIGENCE.

—PASSED DOWNWARDS—

May 10. *Industry*, Hardie, from Gottenburgh to Memel, herring—*Barbara* and Ann, Fowler, from ditto to Riga, ditto.

—PASSED UPWARDS—

9. *Caroline*, Wane, from Dantzic to Grangemouth, grain—*Prince George*, Wilson, from Memel to ditto, timber. The *George*, Bisset, from Dantzic to Bristol, with wheat, is captured by the Jupiter French privateer, and carried into Falkland, in Norway. Wind S. E.—fresh breeze.

ELSNORE, May 12. 1798. HOWDEN & CO.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE TRUSTEES for the road from Kinross to Alloa, having resolved to Build Bridges at Powmill, Wellhall, and Lynmill, those who may be willing to contract for the same, may give in plans and estimates at the Sheriff Clerk's Office at Alloa.

A R M Y.

To be Sold an ENSIGNCY in an Old Regiment, now stationed at Guernsey.

Apply to James ROSE, Writer in Edinburgh.

JUDICIAL SALE OF THE ESTATE OF EDDERLISE

IS POSTPONED to the 21st November next, when it will be exposed in such lots as shall be afterwards advertised.

AT LEITH—FOR LONDON,

The Union Shipping Co's Armed Smack, ROXBURGH PACKET,

THOMAS TAYLOR, Master, AND EDINBURGH & BERWICK PACKET, WILLIAM COOPER Master.

Will take in goods, the Roxburgh till this evening, and sail to-morrow at eleven o'clock forenoon; and the Edinburgh and Berwick till Wednesday afternoon at one o'clock, when the will sail.

Union Shipping Company's Office, LEITH, 26th May, 1798.